

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hitoshi MATSUMOTO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/318,268

Group Art Unit: 2853

Filed: May 25, 1999

Examiner: B. Mouttet

For: INK CARTRIDGE, INK-JET PRINTING APPARATUS, AND REFILLING DEVICE

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.55(a)

(Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.68)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Toru Hatori, declare and state:

that I am a citizen of Japan, having an Office at P.O. Box 521, ARK Mori Building 28F, 12-32, Akasaka 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107 JAPAN;

that I well understand the Japanese and English languages; that the attached English-language documents are full, true and faithful translations made by me of Japanese Application Nos. Hei. 10-158658 filed on May 25, 1998, Hei. 10-158659 filed on May 25, 1998 and Hei. 10-219875 filed on July 18, 1998, on which the

rights of priorities under the International Convention are all claimed for the above-identified application.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the Application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: November 26, 2001